

Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1, 4, 5, 8, and 28-37 are pending in the application, with claims 1 and 35 being the independent claims. Claims 1, 4-5, 30 and 33-36 are sought to be amended. Claims 2, 3, 6, 7, 9-27 and 38 were previously cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute similar or broader claims, with respect to the cancelled and amended claims, in the future.

These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Based on the above amendment and following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112 Second Paragraph

On page 2 of the Office Action, claims 1, 4-5, 8, and 28-37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicants regard as the invention. Although Applicants believe the previously pending claims were in full compliance with all sections of 35 U.S.C., in order to expedite prosecution Applicants have amended claims 1, 35 and 36 substantially as suggested in the Office Action and to eliminate any singular/plural confusion. Other minor housekeeping amendments were also made to correct spelling/word usage.

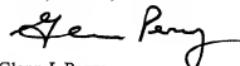
Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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